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INFO RUCNSAD/SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 000540

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/10/2017  
TAGS: [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [UNHRC](#) [MZ](#)  
SUBJECT: MOZAMBIQUE: ASSESSMENT ON UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL  
(UNHRC) ELECTION

REF: STATE 63345

Classified By: Charge d'Affaires James Dudley, for reasons 1.5 (b/d)

(C) We shared with Faruque Faquira, Head of the International Affairs Directorate at the Mozambican Ministry of Foreign Affairs, USG concerns over the upcoming UNHRC election and the bid by Belarus for a seat on the council. Mr. Faquira responded that his government was aware of the concerns that other governments (Note: at least the French and the British, which have demarched the GRM) had over Belarus' bid, and added that his government would be studying the matter "very seriously." The Mozambican government, as a matter of course, abstains on resolutions condemning other governments for human rights abuses. We believe that it most probably will vote against Belarus, if there are three eastern European candidates.  
Dudley